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FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WILDERNESS AREAS and ECOLOGICAL RESERVES

April 1, 1986 to March 31, 1987

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
WILDERNESS AREAS AND ECOLOGICAL RESERVES

APRIL 1, 1986 TO MARCH 31, 1987



RECREATION AND PARKS

Office of the Minister

Room 107 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5K 2B6 403/427-3672

May 19, 1987

The Honourable Dr. David Carter
Speaker of the Legislative Assmebly of Alberta

Sir:

I have the honour of transmitting the Fourth Annual Report
of the Advisory Committee on Wilderness Areas and Ecological
Reserves.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Norm A. Weiss', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Norm A. Weiss
Minister
Alberta Recreation and Parks



RECREATION AND PARKS

Standard Life Centre
10405 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
T5J 3N4

May 19, 1987

The Honourable Norm A. Weiss
Minister of Recreation and Parks
107 Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6

Sir:

I have the honour to present the Fourth Annual Report of
the Advisory Committee on Wilderness Areas and Ecological
Reserves.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Donn E. Cline".

Donn E. Cline
Chairman
Advisory Committee on Wilderness
Areas and Ecological Reserves

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STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN

Through the fourth year of operation, the Advisory Committee on Wilderness Areas and Ecological Reserves continued to receive written and verbal feedback in relation to Candidate Ecological Reserve sites as well as the Ecological Reserves Program in general. The Committee held open house sessions for Hand Hills and Wainwright Dunes Candidate Ecological Reserves. Input received from affected leaseholders, provincial organizations, interest groups and the general public form the basis for the Advisory Committee recommendations. Although Ross Lake Candidate Ecological Reserve was scheduled for review and consideration this year, due to the Government's request for fiscal restraint, the public review was cancelled and re-scheduled for 1987/88.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome two new public members and a new government member to the Advisory Committee. Mr. Horst Fauser of Lethbridge and Dr. Jack Clements of Edmonton were appointed to fill the public member vacancies. Mr. Michael Day, Assistant Deputy Minister, Mineral Resources Division, Department of Energy replaced Mr. Everett Silver who retired from public service in the fall of 1986. The knowledge and experience the new members bring to the Advisory Committee is welcomed.

The Advisory Committee is encouraged with the announcement and posting of Alberta's first Ecological Reserves at Silver Valley, Whitemud Falls, Crow Lake and Marshybank and looks forward to the favourable consideration of additional areas. Alberta is well on its way to establishing a system of Ecological Reserves.

D. E. Cline, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Wilderness
Areas and Ecological Reserves

ROLE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Advisory Committee on Wilderness Areas and Ecological Reserves has been appointed to represent the interests of the general public as they pertain to Wilderness Areas and Ecological Reserves and to advise the Minister of Recreation and Parks and the Minister of Forestry, Lands and Wildlife on matters relevant to those interests. The guiding principle in the operation and deliberation of the Advisory Committee is reconciling the best interests of the system of Wilderness Areas and Ecological Reserves with the many interests of the public as a whole.

The Advisory Committee was established pursuant to Section 2 of the Wilderness Areas, Ecological Reserves and Natural Areas Act, 1981. Following is the role of the Advisory Committee as set out in Section 2(7) of the Act:

7(1) The Advisory Committee shall receive and consider requests from the public regarding wilderness areas and ecological reserves and may make recommendations to the Minister regarding:

- a) the establishment of new wilderness areas or ecological reserves;
- b) the addition of lands to wilderness areas or ecological reserves;
- c) withdrawal of lands from wilderness areas or ecological reserves, and
- d) the making of regulations for the administration, management, operation and utilization of wilderness areas, ecological reserves and controlled buffer zones.

The ultimate responsibility for decision-making on all matters relevant to Wilderness Areas and Ecological Reserves rests solely with the Minister of Recreation and Parks and the jurisdiction of the Advisory Committee does not include the authority to approve or make decisions.

Advisory Committee Membership

Membership of the Advisory Committee is set out in the Wilderness Areas, Ecological Reserves and Natural Areas Act as follows:

- 2(1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall establish a committee called the "Advisory Committee on Wilderness Areas and Ecological Reserves" consisting of 12 members and shall designate one of the members as chairman.
- (2) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may prescribe the term of office of any member of the Committee and the term of office of the chairman.
- (3) The Minister shall designate a member of the Advisory Committee as the secretary to the Committee.
- (4) The Advisory Committee shall consist of:
 - (a) 2 employees of the Department of Recreation and Parks,
 - (b) 3 employees of the Department of Energy and Natural Resources, (presently Department of Forestry, Lands and Wildlife and Department of Energy),
 - (c) 1 employee of the Department of Culture, and
 - (d) 6 persons who are not employed by the Government or a government agency.

Membership of the Advisory Committee as appointed by
Order-in-Council is as follows:

- a) Donn E. Cline, Chairman, Department of Recreation and Parks
- b) Larry F. Duchesne, Secretary, Department of Recreation and Parks
- c) Michael J. Day, Department of Energy
- d) Lynn M. Forbes, Department of Forestry, Lands and Wildlife
- e) Leslie J. Cooke, Department of Forestry, Lands and Wildlife
- f) Dr. William J. Byrne, Department of Culture
- g) Christian E. Andersen, Grande Prairie
- h) Dr. Jack Clements, Edmonton
- i) Horst Fauser, Lethbridge
- j) Thomas Gilchrist, Milk River
- k) Ken Kultgen, Foremost
- l) Peter Orlecki, Two Hills

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

July 28, 1986 - Edmonton

Donn Cline, representing the Advisory Committee, together with representatives of the Ecological Reserves Program met with Mr. Robert Fischer, MLA - Wainwright, to discuss the Ecological Reserves Program and the Candidate Ecological Reserve for Wainwright Dunes.

July 29, 1986 - Edmonton

Donn Cline, representing the Advisory Committee, together with representatives of the Ecological Reserves Program met with Mr. Henry Kroeger, MLA - Chinook, and Mr. Abner Grover, Chairman, Special Areas Board, to discuss the Ecological Reserves Program and the Candidate Ecological Reserve for Hand Hills.

August 28, 1986 - Calgary

The Advisory Committee met to discuss the details for the open house sessions scheduled for Hand Hills, Wainwright Dunes and Ross Lake. An update on the Ecological Reserves Program in general was provided. Donn Cline and Larry Duchesne gave a brief review of the Canadian Council on Ecological Areas Annual Meeting.

Michael Day, Assistant Deputy Minister, Mineral Resources Division, Department of Energy, was introduced to the Committee. Mr. Day replaces Everett Silver who has retired from public service.

September, 1986 - Various Locations

Larry Duchesne, representing the Advisory Committee, together with a representative of the Ecological Reserves Program met with lessees regarding Hand Hills and Wainwright Dunes Candidate Ecological Reserves.

September 18, 1986 - Edmonton

Mac Forbes and Larry Duchesne, representing the Advisory Committee met with Mr. Jack Ady, MLA - Cardston, to discuss the Ecological Reserves Program and the Candidate Ecological Reserve for Ross Lake.

October 23, 1986 - Hand Hills

The Advisory Committee held a public open house to address Hand Hills Candidate Ecological Reserve. This site has been proposed to represent the Northern Fescue Grassland Natural Region.

The open house was attended by a number of leaseholders; staff from the Special Areas Board; representatives from Tintagel Energy Corporation, Ducks Unlimited, Palliser Regional Planning Commission, World Wildlife Fund and the Alberta Wilderness Association. Interested general public also attended.

October 30, 1986 - Provost

The Advisory Committee held a public open house to address Wainwright Dunes Candidate Ecological Reserve. The site has been proposed to represent a portion of the Central Parkland Natural Region.

The open house was attended by members of the Buffalo Park Grazing Association; representatives from the Municipal District of Provost, No. 52, Provost Fish and Game Association, Lasmo Exploration Canada Ltd, as well as the general public.

November 19, 1986 - Edmonton

In response to the Provincial Government's announcement regarding fiscal restraint, the Advisory Committee cancelled the open house scheduled for November 25, 1986 to address Ross Lake Candidate Ecological Reserve. The open house has been rescheduled for the summer of 1987.

125

January 29, 1987 - Edmonton

The Advisory Committee met to review and discuss written and verbal input received from the public regarding Hand Hills and Wainwright Dunes Candidate Ecological Reserves.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the evaluations by professional advisory consultants; input from written and verbal submissions to the Committee; and the studied consideration of its members, the Advisory Committee is pleased to make the following recommendations:

Hand Hills:

As illustrated on Map 1 the Advisory Committee recommends an area of approximately 8.5 square miles (22.01 km^2) as an Ecological Reserve. Should it be necessary to reduce the size of the area, the Committee recommends the area illustrated on Map 2 be established as an Ecological Reserve, as it contains the most important resources.

Wainwright Dunes:

As illustrated on Map 3 the Advisory Committee recommends that the approximately 11 square mile (28.48 km^2) area which coincides with the Buffalo Park Grazing Association lease be established as an Ecological Reserve. Should it be necessary to reduce the size of the area, the Committee recommends the area illustrated on Map 4 be established as an Ecological Reserve, as it contains the most important resources.

Alberta RECREATION AND PARKS

Scale: 10 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70
Kilometers
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70
Miles

NATURAL REGIONS OF ALBERTA

1. GRASSLAND

- ☐ A. MIXED
- ☐ B. NORTHERN PESCUE
- ☐ C. FOOTHILLS

2. PARKLAND

- ☐ A. CENTRAL
- ☐ B. FOOTHILLS
- ☐ C. PEACE RIVER

3. FOOTHILLS

- ☐ A. MAIN
- ☐ B. NORTHERN OUTLIERS

4. BOREAL FOREST

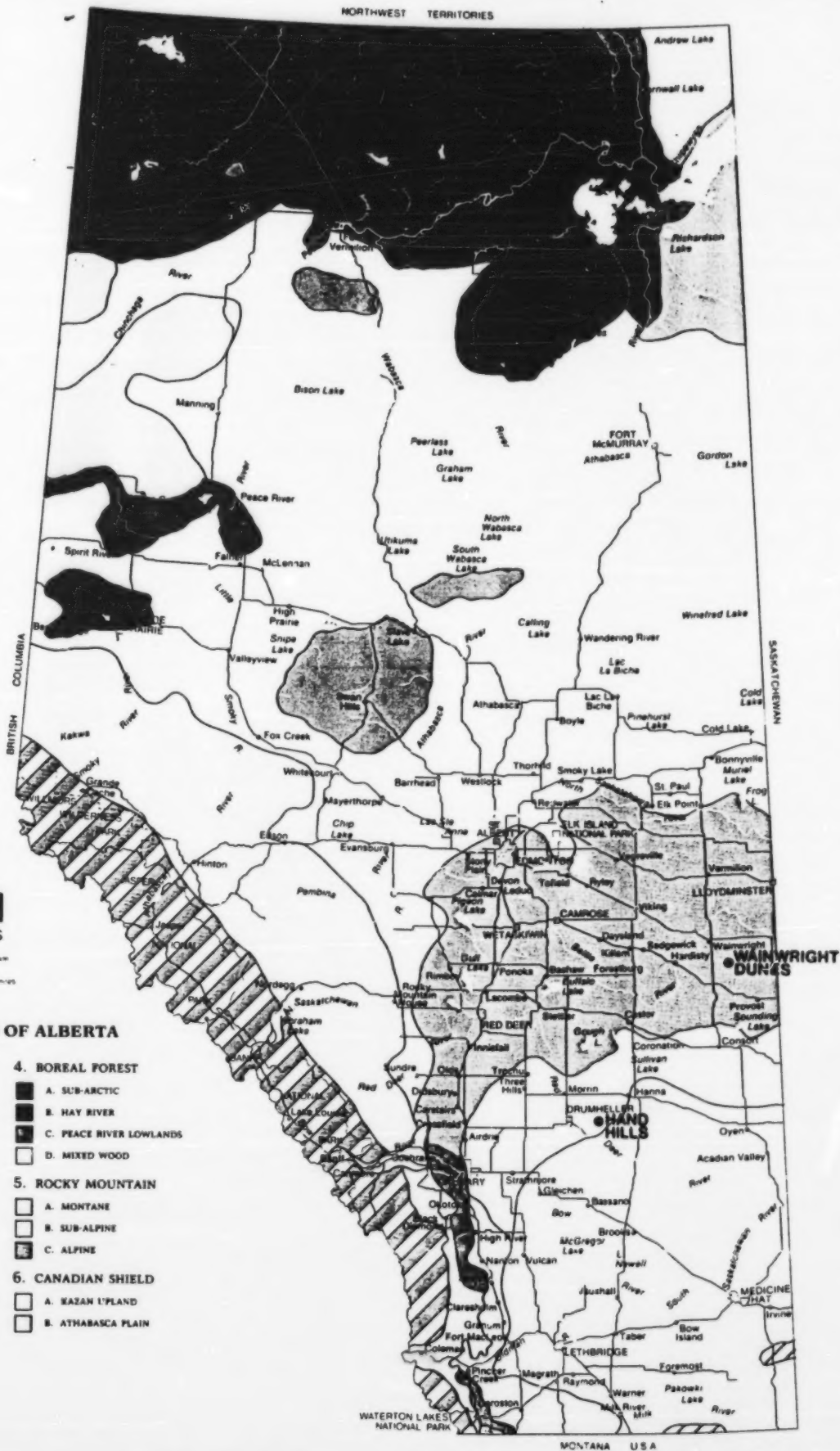
- ☐ A. SUB-ARCTIC
- ☐ B. HAY RIVER
- ☐ C. PEACE RIVER LOWLANDS
- ☐ D. MIXED WOOD

5. ROCKY MOUNTAIN

- ☐ A. MONTANE
- ☐ B. SUB-ALPINE
- ☐ C. ALPINE

6. CANADIAN SHIELD

- ☐ A. WAZAN U'PLAND
- ☐ B. ATHABASCA PLAIN



HAND HILLS

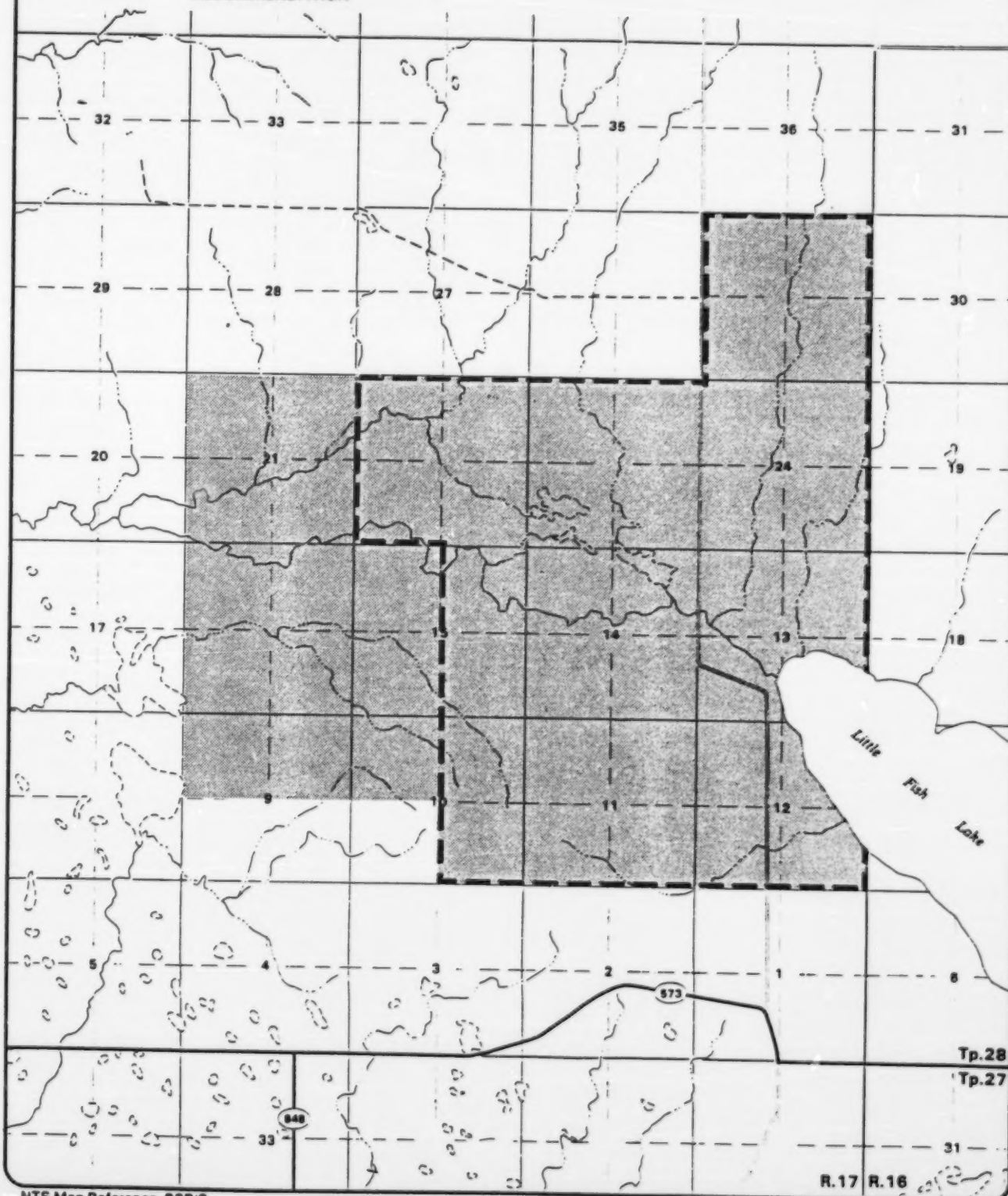
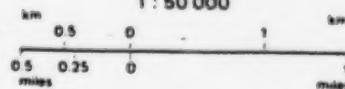
Tp.28, R.17 West of 4th Meridian

Map 1

1 : 50 000

 CANDIDATE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
AREA UNDER CONSIDERATION

 ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION

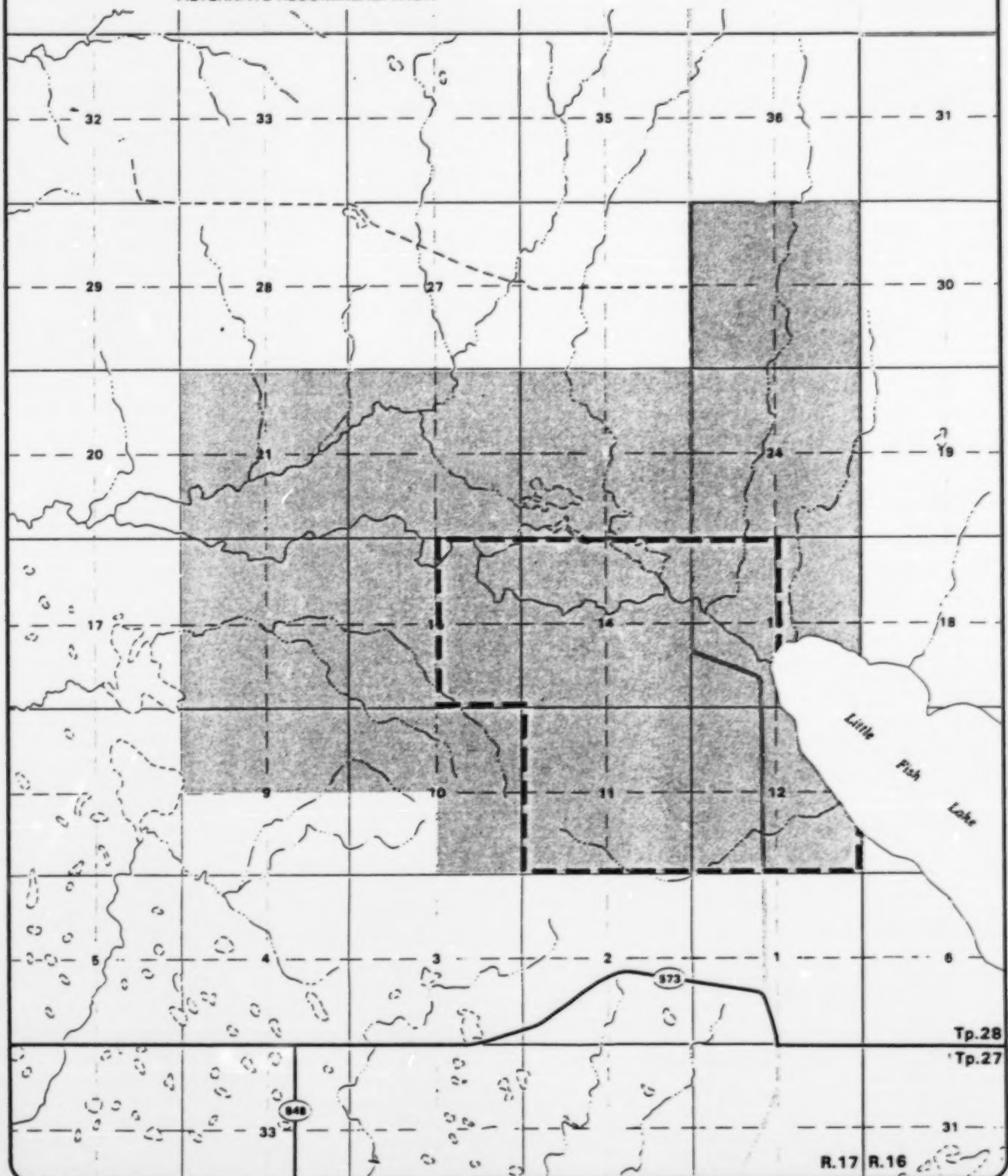
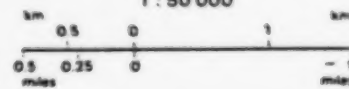


HAND HILLS
Tp.28, R.17 West of 4th Meridian

Map 2

1 : 50 000

 **CANDIDATE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
AREA UNDER CONSIDERATION**
 **ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATION**



WAINWRIGHT DUNES

Tp.41 and 42, R.5 West of 4th Meridian

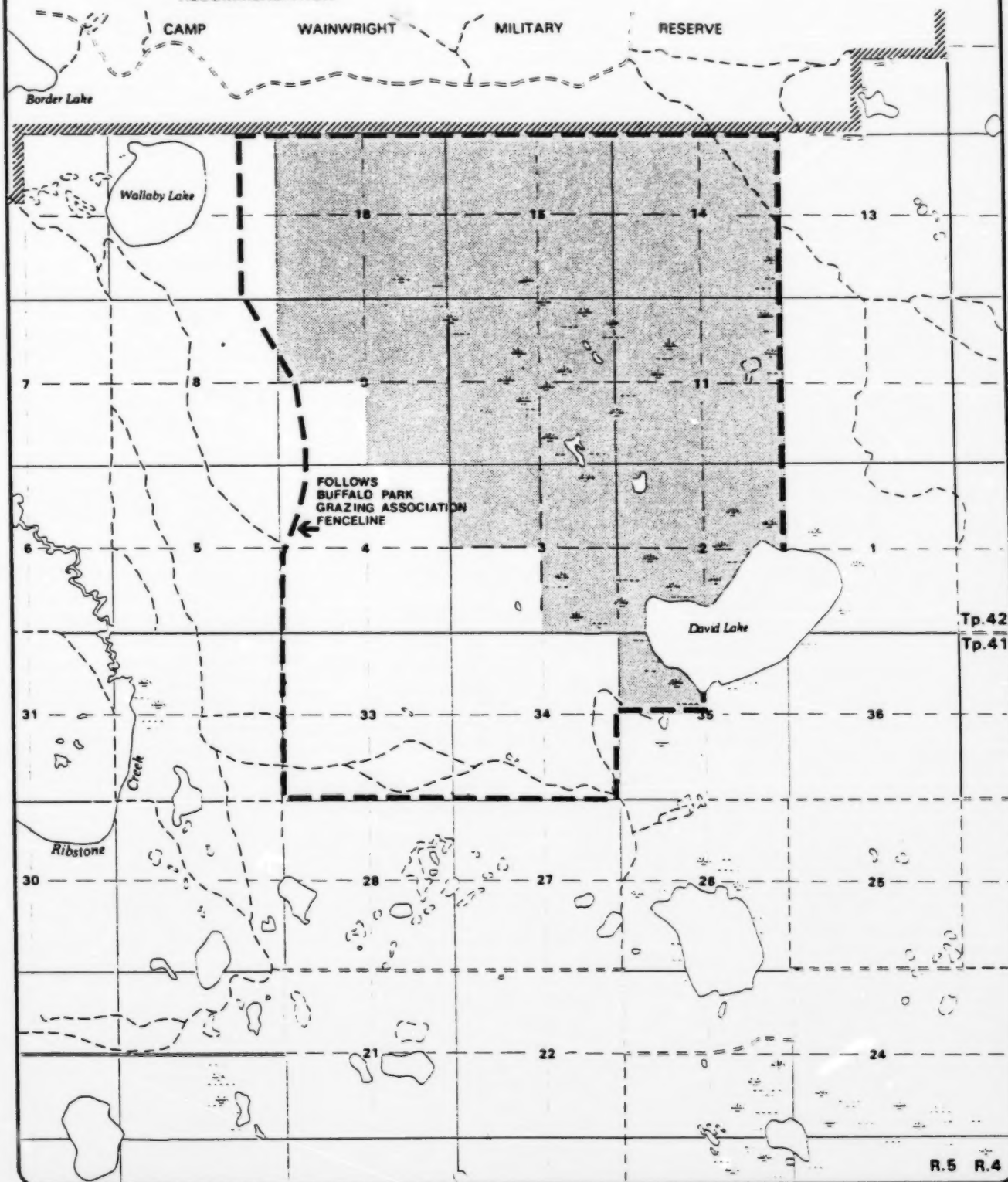
Map 3

1 : 50 000

 CANDIDATE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
AREA UNDER CONSIDERATION

 ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION

km 0.5 0 1 km
0.5 0.25 0 1
miles miles



WAINWRIGHT DUNES

Tp.41 and 42, R.5 West of 4th Meridian

Map 4

1 : 50 000

-  CANDIDATE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
AREA UNDER CONSIDERATION
-  ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATION

